

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-19 are pending, with claims 12, 13, 16, and 17 being withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 2, 12 (withdrawn), 13 (withdrawn), 14, 15, 16 (withdrawn), 17 (withdrawn), 18, and 19 are independent.


Claims 14, 15, 18, and 19 have been amended as requested by the Examiner. In addition, withdrawn method claims 12, 13, 16, and 17 have been amended to track the language of the non-method claims, which Applicants believe are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 12, 13, 16, and 17 are in condition for allowance, and Applicants requests that these claims be reinstated.

In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date: August 25, 2003



Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300
DPM:DTL